Articles to bee enquired of by the Minister, Church-wardens, and Sidemen of euery Parish and Chapelry within the Deanry of *Shoreham* in the yeare of our Lord God . . . And presentment to be *made by them conteining a particular Answer to euery Article.*

The forme of the OATH taken by the Church-wardens and Sidemen,

YOu shall sweare, that you and euery of you shall dulie consider and diligently informe your selues of these Articles giuen you in charge, and that all fauour, hatred, hope, feare, or any other corrupt affection set aside, you shall present all and euery such person now or lately of your Parish, which haue committed any offence comprized in any of these Articles, or which are vehemently suspected or defamed of any such offence. Wherein you shall deale according to an vpright conscience, neither presenting nor sparing to present any person contrary to truth, So helpe you God, and his faithfull promises in Iesus Christ.

WHETHER haue you in your Church all things requisite for the common Prayer, and due administration of the Sacraments? And namely a faire Bible, the Booke of common Prayer, lately ordeined only to be vsed? A Font of stone set vp in the ancient vsuall place? A decent Communion table standing vpon a frame, with a carpet of silke or some other seemely stuffe, and a faire linnen cloth to lay thereon at the time of communion? A faire communion Cup with a couer of siluer: a decent Pulpit with a cloth and Cushion for the same: a conuenient seat to read seruice in: a comely large surplice: a strong chest for almes for the poore with three lockes and keyes, and another chest for keeping the Ornaments of the Church and Register booke: and whether haue you a Register booke in parchment of all Christnings, Weddings, and Burials: and whether is the same kept according to the Canons, and a transcript thereof brought yeerely into the Office of principall Registrie of the L. Archb. of *Canterbury*? And whether doth the Minister vpon euery Sunday reade the names of such as haue beene christened, married, or buried in the weeke before? *Canon.* 80. 81. 82. 83. 84 70.

2 Whether your Church, Chancell and Churchyard be kept in good reparation, well . . . chout: whether any prophanation be or hath beene vsed in them: or whether any man hath incroached vpon them: And whether your personage or vicaridge h . . . thereunto belonging, be likewise maintained in sufficient reparations: If not, through whose default, and what is the defect? 85. 88.

3 Whether haue you a Terrier of all the gleabe Landes, Meadowes, Garde . . . des, Houses, Stockes, Implements, Tenements, and portions of Tythes lying within or without your Parish which belong to your Parsonage or Vicaridge, and in whose ha . . . oeth it remaine: If not, you shall together with your Minister make diligent enquirie of all the premises, and exhibite with your next presentment a true note of them in . . . hent subscribed with your hands, specifying how they are buttalled or bounded, and in whose occupation at this present they are? 87.

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4 WHether diuine seruice be said in your Church by your Minister distinctly and reuerently, vpon Sundayes and such holydaies as are appointed to be obserued by the booke of Common prayer, and their Eues, and vpon Wednesdaies and Fridaies at conuenient and vsuall times: and whether doth he in ministring the Sacraments, solemnizing of matrimony, visitation of the sicke, burying the dead, churching of women, or any other rites and offices of the Church, vse the formes of prayers prescribed in the same booke, without any omission or addition: And whether doth he read the booke of Canons once yeerely, and weare a Surplice according to the Canon? 14. 15. 58.

5 Whether doth your Minister solemnly giue warning to his Parishioners for the holy Communion, and for all Holydaies & fasting daies? And whether doth he visite the sick when he is thereunto desired to comfort and instruct them? And whether doth hee offer to conferre with Recusants in your Parish if there bee any? And whether doth hee admit to the holy Communion any notorious offenders, schismatickes, or strangers of other Parishes; or eiect any, who are not by presentment or publique scandall infamous for some notorious crime? And whether doth he admit any Father to be Godfather to his owne Childe; or any to be Godfathers and Godmothers which haue not receiued the holy Communion? or doth not vse the signe of the Crosse in baptisme? or doth baptize in any bason or other vessell, and not in the vsuall Font? or doth baptize any children that were not borne within the Parish? And whether doth he marry any in any exempt place, or without banes published three seuerall Sundaies or Holidaies, or without a sufficient dispensation or licence, or without licence in times prohibited, albeit the banes were thrice published, or not betwixt the houres of 8. and 12. in the forenoone, or if the parties bee vnder the age of 21. yeares, before their parents haue signified their consent vnto him? or whether doth hee refuse to Christen, or to bury, or doth deferre the same longer then hee should? and whether by his default any Childe hath died without baptisme in your Parish? 22. 64. 67. 84. 66. 26. 27. 28. 29. 62. 63. 68. 69. 62. 100.

6 Whether doth he preach, minister the communion, baptize children, or church women (vnlesse in case of necessitie) or in any case without a faculty solemnize matrimony in priuate houses? Or doth keepe or suffer any Fastes, Propheſies, Exercises, or Exorcismes without lawfull authoritie; or doth hold or suffer any priuate conuenticles? And whether doth he frequent Tauernes, Alehouses, or any place suspected for incontinencie, or doth table or lodge in any such house? or is hee a common gamester at Dice, Cardes, Tables, or any other vnlawfull game; a Swearer or Drunkard, or one that applieth not himselfe to his study? Or doth not vse decencie in his apparrell? Or is otherwise offensiue or scandalous to his function and ministry? 70. 71. 72. 73. 74.

7 Whether is hee continually resident vpon his benefice, and how long time hath hee been absent from the same? (in case hee be licenced to be absent) whether doth he cause his cure to be sufficiently supplied? And whether (if hee bee allowed a Preacher) doth hee preach one Sermon euery Sunday? or (if not so allowed) doth procure monthly sermons, and read Homilies? And whether (not being so allowed) doth hee expound any Scripture, or suffer any man to preach in your Church, whom you haue not well knowne, to haue beene sufficiently licenced, and who hath not first subscribed his name, together with the day when he did preach, and who was not soberly and decently apparrelled? 45. 46. 47. 74.

8 Whether doth your Preacher and Lecturer read diuine seruice, and minister the Sacraments twice a yeare at the least, in his owne person? And whether doth hee vse the forme of prayer before his sermons for the Kings most excellent Maiestie, exhorting the people to obedience to his Maiestie, and other Magistrates in authority vnder him? 56. 55.

9 Whether doth your Minister on Sundaies and Holidaies Catechize the Youth and ignorant persons in your Parish? And whether doth hee admit any women to bee churched who were begotten with childe in adultery or fornication, without licence from the Ordinarie And whether doth hee in the Rogation dayes vse the perambulation of the circuite of the Parish? 59.

10 Whether doth he euery sixe moneths denounce in his Parish Church all such o . . . rishas doe perseuer in the sentence of excommunication, not seeking to bee absolued? And whether hath hee admitted any such excommunicate person to the communion, . . . Church without certificate of his absolution? And whether doth hee or any of your Parish familiarly frequent the company of any such excommunicate person?

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11 WHether any of your Parishioners, doe not cause their . . . and Apprentises, to come to their Minister vpon Sundaies and Holidaies to bee instructed according to the Catechisme by them? or whether any of them refuse to come? or if they come, refuse to be instructed? And what bee the names of them so not causing, or refusing? 59. 75.

12 Whether any of your Parishioners, or other strangers soiourning, lodging, or commonly resorting to any house within your Parish, aboue 16. yeares of age, doe wilfully or negligently absent themselues from your parish Church, vpon Sundayes or Holidayes at Morning or Euening prayer? or who come very late to Church vpon the said dayes? or who depart from Church before seruice bee finished? or who doe not reuerently behaue themselues during the time of diuine Seruice, deuoutly kneeling at such times as the generall Confession of sinnes, the Letanie, the ten Commandements, and all prayers and Collects are read? or who doe vse any gameing or pastime abroad, or in any house, or doe sit in the street, or Church yard, or in any Tauerne, or Victualing-house vpon any of those dayes in time of diuine Seruice? or who haue quarrelled, brawled, or vsed violence to any person within your Church, or Church-yard? or who hath vsed filthy or prophane talke, or other rude and immodest behauiour there? 13. 14. 18.

13 Whether there be any of, or within your parish being sixteene yeeres of age, and vpwards, that doe not receiue the holy Communion in your Church thrice in this yeare at the least, and chiefly once at Easter? And whether any of your parish doth not deuoutly kneele at the receiuing thereof? And whether doth not your Minister receiue it himselfe on euery day that he administreth it to others, and vse the words of institution at euery time that the bread and wine is administred? And whether doe your selues diligently obserue your office, in marking what persons of or within your parish offend against this, or the next precedent Article, and in due presenting their names? 21. 22. 28.

14 Whether any in your parish haue a Preacher to your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, doe absent themselues from his Sermons, and resort to other places to heare other Preacher? And whether any hauing beene ordeyned Priest, or Deacon, hath relinquished the same, and b . . . etaken him to a course of life as a lay man? Or whether any not being in Orders, doth openly read Common prayer, or execute any ministeriall dutie in your Church, and what be their names? 4. 6. 10. 57. 9. 10. 100.

15 Whether there be any that doe publiquely or priuately speake against the Booke of Common prayer, deprauing the same or any thing therein contained? or against any of the said Articles of Religion agreed vpon in *Anno* 1562? Or against the Kings Royall Supremacie in causes Ecclesiasticall? Or against any of the rites or ceremonies of the Church of *England*? Or against the gouernment of the said Church of *England* vnder the Kings most excellent Maiestie, by Bishops, Archbishops, Deanes, Archdeacons, & other Officers in the same, affirming, that the same is repugnant to the word of God, and that the said Ecclesiasticall Officers are not lawfully ordeyned? Or whether there be any that be Authors or maintainers of Scisme, or frequenters of any priuate conuenticles or meetings? or that be, or are suspected to be Anabaptists, Libertines, Brownists, of the Familie of Loue, other heresie or schisme, And what be their names?

16 Whether doe you know any Schoolemaster that doth teach, or Curate that doth reade diuine Seruice within your parish, without licence of his Ordinary vnder his Seale? And whether doth not such Schoolemaster instruct his schollers in the Catechisme, and teach them the grounds of Religion, and bring them to Church to heare diuine Seruice and Sermons? And whether is he a common officer or artificer, or any wayes reprooueable in life? And whether is your Clarke also allowed by the Ordinary? And whether doth your clarke serue more cures than one? And whether doe they demeane themselues according to their seuerall duties? 77. 78. 79.

17 How many Midwiues haue you in your Parish which doe exercise that office? how long haue they so done, and by what authoritie? Also how many in your Parish doe practise as Physitions or Chirurgions? how long haue they so done, and of what skill are they reputed in their profession?

18 Whether doe you know any persons that doe administer the goods of the dead without lawfull authoritie? or suppresse the last will of the dead? or with-hold any stocke of the Church, or any Legacies giuen to godly and charitable vses? and whether is the almes of the Church faithfully distributed to the vse of the poore? And whether the late Church-wardens haue giuen a iust accompt before the Minister and Parishioners at the end of their yeere, according to the Canon? 86.

19 Whether doe you know in your parish any common swearers, drunkards, blasphemers, any simoniacal persons, or vsurers contrary to the Statute 37. of *Henry* the eight, any soothsayers, charmers, fornicators, adulterers, incestious persons, brawlers, common slanderers of their neighbours, raylers, scolds, filthy and lasciuious talkers, sowers of discord between neighbors, or any that receiue or lodge incontinent persons, or harbour women with childe who be vnmarried, conueying or suffering them to goe away before they haue made satisfaction to the congregation? or any persons that are by common fame noted or vehemently suspected of any of these crimes? or that being heretofore suspected, or presented for any of these faults, haue for that cause departed out of your Parish, and are now returned againe?

20 Whether there bee any persons within your Parish that be married within the prohibited degrees of consanguinitie or affininitie, or their old wiues or husbands being yet aliue, albeit diuorced from them; or that being lawfully married, doe liue scandalously apart, . . . e married in times prohibited, or without banes three seuerall Sundayes or Holydaies published, hauing no sufficient licence or dispensation for the same? And whether there be any that doe communicate, or cause their children to be baptized in other Parishes abroad, or keepe their children vnbaptized longer then is conuenient? 59. 57.

21 Whether any woman deliuered of childe in your Parish, in time conuenient after child-birth, doe not come to the vsuall place in the Church to giue God thanks? And whether doth your Clarke lap a Cushion at the said vsuall place? whether any inhabitant within your Parish doth detaine the Clarkes wages, duties for bread and wine, or any other Church dueties? present particularly what be their names, and what and how much those dueties be? 117.

22 Whether any person in your Parish doe exercise any Trade, Handicraft, or bodily labour, or doe buy and sell, or keepe open Shops or warehouses vpon any Sunday or Holiday, by themselues, their seruants or Apprentizes, or haue otherwise prophaned the sayd daies contrary to the order of the Church of *England*? And whether there bee any Inne-keepers, Alehouse-keepers, or Victualers, that permit any persons in their houses to eat, drinke, or play at my games during the time of diuine Seruice, or Sermon in the forenoone or afternoone vpon those dayes?

23 Whether doe any in your Parish familiarly frequent the company of excommunicate persons? And whether doeth your Minister or any of your Parish without consent of the Ordinarie, cause any to doe penance, or to be censured or punished by any Vestry meetings, or otherwise by their owne authoritie, or doe, or haue taken any money for any crime or matter punishable by the Ecclesiasticall Law? who haue beene so punished? in what manner? and vpon what cause?

24 If any one or more of you doe know, or haue heard of any fault inquired of in these Articles, or of any other crime, the reformation whereof belongeth to the spirituall iurisdiction, happening from the first day of *October* last that then you doe informe one another thereof, and you shall likewise present the same by vertue of your oathes? 113.

25 The Minister of euery Parish may ioyne in euery presentment with the Churchwardens and Sidemen, who if they will not present, the Minister may himselfe present to the said Commissary or his Surrogat such faults or crimes aboue said, as shall be thought to require due reformation. 118. 118.

You are charged to specifie the fault or crime, proper names and surnames, trade or addition, and place of dwelling of euery person presented. And to bring your first generall presentment vpon all these Articles into Bowe Church in Cheapside in the forenoone betwixt the houres of viij. and xi. of the clocke, the 25th day of . . . next comming. And your last generall presentment on the first day of . . . then next following, or else then and there to appeare personally, to shew the cause of your default therein. Intimating further, that you may (besides these generall dayes) present offenders, as oft as you shall thinke meete, as by the Canon is prescribed, Vnto the said Deane, Commissary, or his deputy, sitting at any time in the open court.